



10/715 836
Jun 18 2004
FRPR

Practitioner's Docket No.: 081557-0306904
Client Reference No.: Cozy Wrap US patent

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: NEIL TREVOR
SHINNER

Confirmation No: 3631

Application No.: 10/715,836

Group No.: 3673

Filed: November 19, 2003

Examiner:

For: CONVERTIBLE BLANKET

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

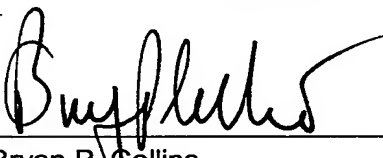
SUBMISSION OF PRIORITY DOCUMENT

Attached please find the certified copy of the foreign application from which priority is claimed for this case:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Application Number</u>	<u>Filing Date</u>
UK	0227009.8	11/19/2002

Date: June 18, 2004

PILLSBURY WINTHROP LLP
P.O. Box 10500
McLean, VA 22102
Telephone: (703) 905-2000
Facsimile: (703) 905-2500
Customer Number: 00909
BPC/ml


Bryan P. Collins
Registration No. 43560

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)



10/9/2011



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

The Patent Office
Concept House
Cardiff Road
Newport
South Wales
NP10 8QQ

I, the undersigned, being an officer duly authorised in accordance with Section 74(1) and (4) of the Deregulation & Contracting Out Act 1994, to sign and issue certificates on behalf of the Comptroller-General, hereby certify that annexed hereto is a true copy of the documents as originally filed in connection with the patent application identified therein.

In accordance with the Patents (Companies Re-registration) Rules 1982, if a company named in this certificate and any accompanying documents has re-registered under the Companies Act 1980 with the same name as that with which it was registered immediately before re-registration save for the substitution as, or inclusion as, the last part of the name of the words "public limited company" or their equivalents in Welsh, references to the name of the company in this certificate and any accompanying documents shall be treated as references to the name with which it is so re-registered.

In accordance with the rules, the words "public limited company" may be replaced by p.l.c., plc, P.L.C. or PLC.

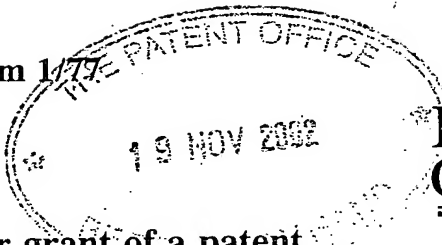
Re-registration under the Companies Act does not constitute a new legal entity but merely subjects the company to certain additional company law rules.

Signed

Dated

24 December 2003

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)



The
**Patent
Office**

1/77

The Patent Office
Cardiff Road
Newport
Gwent NP9 1RH

Request for grant of a patent

(See the notes on the back of this form. You can also get an explanatory leaflet from the Patent Office to help you fill in this form)

1. Your reference	29.76904/001		
2. Patent application number (The Patent Office will fill in this part)	0227009.8		
3. Full name, address and postcode of the or of each applicant. (underline all surnames)	Worlds Apart Limited 4 Union Court 18-20 Union Road London SW4 6JP		
Patents ADP number (if you know it)			
If the applicant is a corporate body, give country/state of incorporation	United Kingdom		
4. Title of the invention	Convertible Blanket		
5. Name of your agent (if you have one)	Frank B. Dehn & Co.		
"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)	179 Queen Victoria Street London EC4V 4EL		
Patents ADP number (if you know it)	166001		
6. If you are declaring priority from one or more earlier patent applications, give the country and the date of filing of the or of each of these earlier applications and (if you know it) the or each application number	Country	Priority application number (if you know it)	Date of filing (day / month / year)
7. If this application is divided or otherwise derived from an earlier UK application, give the number and the filing date of the earlier application	Number of earlier application	Date of filing (day / month / year)	
8. Is a statement of inventorship and of right to grant of a patent required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if: a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or c) any named applicant is a corporate body. See note (d))	Yes		

Patents Form 1/77

9. Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document

Continuation sheets of this form	0
Description	5
Claim(s)	0
Abstract	0
Drawing(s)	17

10. If you are also filing any of the following, state how many against each item.

Priority documents	0
Translations of priority documents	0
Statement of inventorship and right to grant of a patent (Patents Form 7/77)	0
Request for preliminary examination and search (Patents Form 9/77)	0
Request for substantive examination (Patents Form 10/77)	0
Any other documents (please specify)	0

11. I/We request the grant of a patent on the basis of this application.

Signature  Date 19 November 2002

12. Name and daytime telephone number of person to contact in the United Kingdom

Matthew Hall
020 7206 0600

Warning

After an application for a patent has been filed, the Comptroller of the Patent Office will consider whether publication or communication of the invention should be prohibited or restricted under Section 22 of the Patents Act 1977. You will be informed if it is necessary to prohibit or restrict your invention in this way. Furthermore, if you live in the United Kingdom, Section 23 of the Patents Act 1977 stops you from applying for a patent abroad without first getting written permission from the Patent Office unless an application has been filed at least 6 weeks beforehand in the United Kingdom for a patent for the same invention and either no direction prohibiting publication or communication has been given, or any such direction has been revoked.

Notes

- If you need help to fill in this form or you have any questions, please contact the Patent Office on 0645 500505.
- Write your answers in capital letters using black ink or you may type them.
- If there is not enough space for all the relevant details on any part of this form, please continue on a separate sheet of paper and write "see continuation sheet" in the relevant part(s) of the form. Any continuation sheet should be attached to this form.
- If you have answered 'Yes', Patents Form 7/77 will need to be filed.
- Once you have filled in the form you must remember to sign and date it.
- For details of the fee and ways to pay please contact the Patent Office.

Convertible Blanket

The present invention is intended to solve the problem of children bringing their duvets or quilts downstairs from the bedroom to wrap around themselves, for example, whilst they watch television.

Alternatively, there could be a quilted or fleecy blanket or 'throw' left in the TV room that they can wrap around themselves but this has to be folded and left untidily on a settee or chair.

If the normal bedding, e.g., duvet or quilt is brought downstairs, then it is often wrapped around the child like a 'cloak'. If the child gets up and moves, it falls off.

The present invention, at least in its preferred forms, is designed to solve these problems.

In its simplest form, there is provided a blanket having a pocket into which the blanket may be stuffed. To stow the blanket, the pocket is turned inside out and the blanket is stuffed inside. Thus the exterior of the pocket when the blanket is extracted forms the interior of the pocket when it receives the blanket, and similarly the inside of the pocket becomes the outside surface when stuffed with the stowed blanket.

The term "blanket" used herein is not intended to be interpreted narrowly in the sense of a thick sheet, but is intended to cover thin sheets, comfort blankets, throws, towels, padded bedding such as duvets and quilts, sleeping bags or sleeping sacks and other such soft bedding or similar item of a breathable woven fabric material, e.g., cotton or wool, that a young child may wrap around them whilst they watch television. In the case of duvets and quilts which are usually kept in a washable cover, a cover provided with a pocket in accordance with the present invention is within the term "blanket" used herein. In such a case the pocket is of a size to receive the cover and the duvet or quilt contained therein.

The pocket has decoration on its inside, e.g., in the form of a printed pattern or fabric features, and is preferably also of a corresponding shape so that

when it is turned inside out it depicts a fun object such as an animal, dinosaur, fish, character, toy, vehicle, monster, etc., or a portion of such an object, e.g., a head of a teddy bear. When the blanket is stowed within the pocket, the stuffed pocket then serves as a toy or novelty cushion. It may
5 also be used as a pillow.

Providing the decoration on the inside of the pocket also adds a "surprise" factor to the product which can add to the child's enjoyment. When the blanket, perhaps depicting one scene or character, is stowed, another
10 character or animal can be created by the stuffed pocket, providing a distinction between television watching time and other activities such as getting ready for bed.

Preferably both sides of the interior of the pocket include decoration. In one
15 embodiment the decoration depicts a different object on different sides so that the stuffed object is reversible. This may be of advantage where the stuffed object is in the form of a cushion which is intended to be left stowed, for example, on seating in the room, where its reversibility could allow
20 different colours or object depictions to be chosen depending on the mood of the parent.

The pocket could also include straps or other carrying aid which is revealed when the pocket is turned inside out, for example, shoulder straps so that the child can carry the stuffed toy on his or her back, or a waist strap for
25 carrying it around his or her waist. In this way the straps can be stowed safely in the pocket when the blanket has been pulled out and the pocket reversed. A zip, hook and eye material, press fasteners, buttons or other fastening device can be used to close the pocket. The straps or the like may also form part of the overall design that the stuffed pocket is intended
30 to replicate, for example, as arms and / or legs of an animal, which then hug around the child when it is being carried and may be foam or perhaps air filled.

When not filled with the blanket, the pocket may be used for storing sweets
35 and toys, depending on its orientation with respect to the blanket. It could also be used to store the remote control so that it does not become lost behind the sofa. In another embodiment, the pocket may be positioned to

receive the feet of the child to keep the child's feet warm when watching television.

5 Buttons, hook and eye material or other fastening means may be provided to attach the pocket to the blanket so that it can be removed for washing of the blanket. However, it is most preferred to provide an integral pocket that is permanently attached to the blanket through sewing or similar operation.

10 The invention is not limited to children's products and may also have appeal to an adult market, for example, as a cosy blanket that is kept in the television room for cuddling up into when watching the television. In such situations, the stuffed object may have more of an adult theme, possibly depicting more grown up shapes or presenting an external form that imitates a conventional cushion when the blanket is stowed. Such blankets for
15 adults will be generally larger and will stow to form a larger stuffed object, perhaps forming a "bean bag" type seat. The concept of providing a "bean bag" seat would also be applicable to a child's product.

20 In accordance with a further aspect of this invention, a blanket is provided with a hood which is stored in a pocket when not in use. Preferably the blanket is a cover for a duvet or quilt. Once released from its pocket, the hood can be worn over the head of the user so that the blanket can be worn as a hooded cloak. Preferably the hood includes drawstrings, elastic or similar tensioners to pull the hood close around the head of the user. The
25 hood may include features or be printed to resemble an object such as an animal, fish, dinosaur, character etc, or portion thereof, preferably in conjunction with printing or decoration on the blanket. For example fabric ears or other feature could be provided. The hood is preferably open at the face portion, but may include fabric, for example to form a mask to imitate a
30 character such as a cloaked superhero, e.g., Batman or Superman. Preferably the hood is provided halfway along one edge, but may also be provided at one corner.

35 Preferably fastening means is provided, e.g., in the form of hook and eye type material, lace or buckle, to allow the blanket to be secured around the shoulders of the user so that the user can walk around with the blanket still in place and keeping the user warm. The position of the fastening means

should be at about shoulder level when worn.

In the preferred embodiments, the blanket also includes the stowing pocket described above. It is also envisaged that the hood could be retained within the blanket stowing pocket. In another embodiment, the hood could form a pocket for stowing the blanket.

Certain preferred embodiments will now be described by way of example only and with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

Figure 1 illustrates a blanket or quilt having a pocket;
Figure 2 illustrates a sleeping bag having a pocket;
Figure 3 illustrates a quilt having a pocket and which has been provided with a hood and fastening straps;
Figure 4 illustrates the interior of the pocket, when reversed and stuffed with the blanket, as a front view;
Figure 5 illustrates the stuffed pocket of Figure 4 from above; and
Figure 6 illustrates a blanket with a hood extracted, ready for wearing as a cloak.

As described above, there is provided a blanket 1, preferably made from a soft fleecy material (see Figure 1) with a sewn-on shaped pocket 2 on one side. To store the blanket away, one simply reaches inside the opening of the pocket 3 and grabs a handful of blanket 1 and pulls it out of the pocket 2, thereby creating a 'hollow' on the reverse side. One then turns the blanket 1 over and literally 'stuffs' the entire blanket 1 into this 'hollow'. As the last of the blanket 1 is pushed into the hollow, the sewn-on pocket 2 reverses itself inside out, therefore taking up the shape of the pocket 2 and showing the decoration that was previously inside the pocket as shown in Figure 4. This pocket 2 preferably has decoration on both sides of it with an opening 3 (see Figure 5).

Any attractive shape or form can be used for the pocket 2, for example, simple animals, fish, teddy bear faces, etc., and the decoration can either be simply printed on or become much more complex with additional shaped features added, for example, with a teddy bear's ears or nose.

5 The resulting item is a soft, shaped cushion that can be left, simply and unobtrusively, on a chair (see Figure 4). To convert the item back into a blanket 1, you simply reverse the process and pull all the blanket 1 out of the opening 3 in the cushion, until the cover of the cushion itself reverses itself back into being the pocket 2 on the original blanket 1.

10 The blanket 1 can also be a simple open tube with an opening 4, but closed at the bottom, so that the user gets into it to remain warm but otherwise, it functions in exactly the same way as the blanket 1 when converting into a cushion (see Figure 2).

15 As shown in Figure 3, a further extension of this concept is to sew the same open pocket feature 2 into a normal continental quilt cover or duvet cover 1. In this embodiment, the sewn-on pocket 2 is made much larger to accept the larger bulk of the quilt itself, but otherwise it functions in exactly the same way. When the entire quilt 1 is 'stuffed' into the pocket 2, the resulting large shaped object can be used as a large pillow or 'bean bag' style of chair.

20 Preferably in this embodiment, there are two other features that can be built into the duvet cover 1 itself. One feature allows for another small internal pocket 5 in the middle of one edge of the duvet cover 1, closed with a zip or hook and eye type material such as Velcro (registered trade mark). Within this pocket is a fleecy hood 6 that when released can sit over the head of user, so as to turn the whole duvet cover 1 into a cloak (see Figure 6) with a hood. The hood may be detachable for washing purposes or permanently fixed to the duvet cover by sewing. A second feature allows for a fastening device 7 around the front of the 'cloak' to hold it onto the users shoulders.

30 Thus there has been described a novel arrangement which provides a blanket or similar bedding material that can be converted into a wrap for a child for whilst it is watching television, or a stuffed toy or cushion that can be left unobtrusively on seating in the television room.

THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)

FIG. 1

1/1

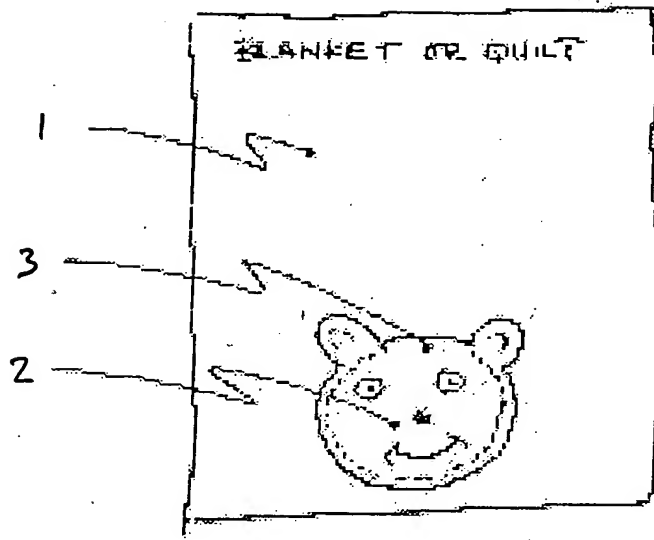


FIG. 4

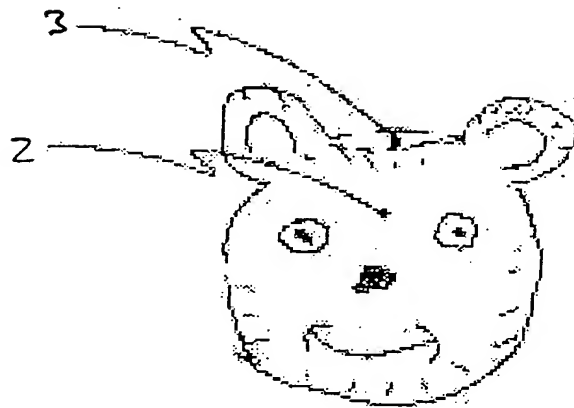


FIG. 2

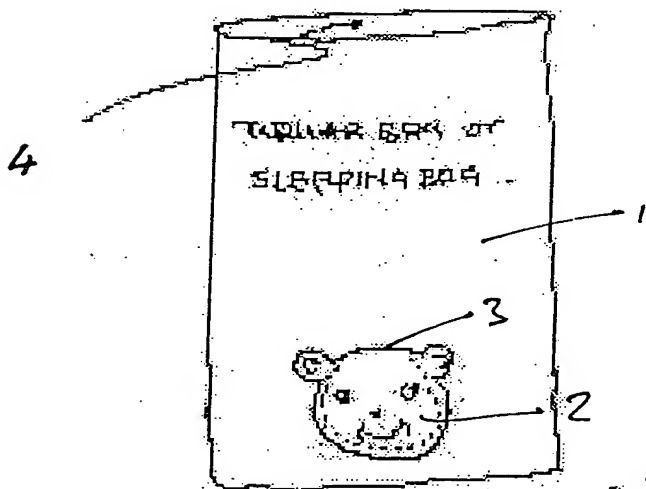


FIG. 5



FIG. 3

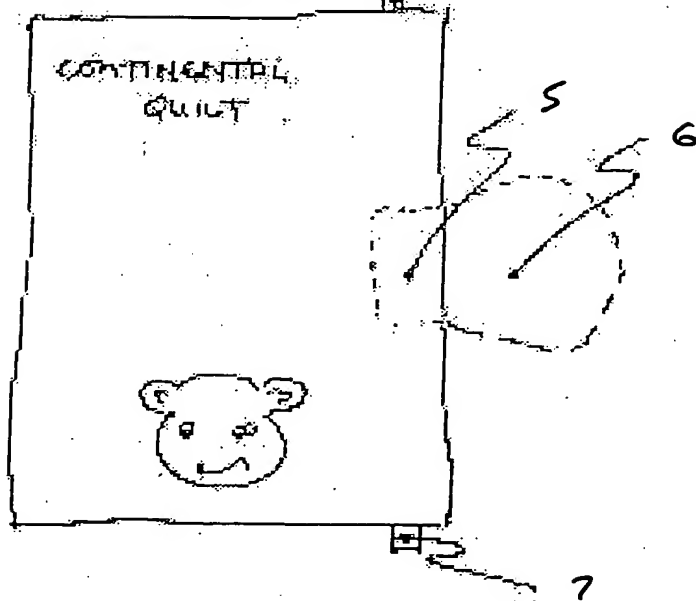
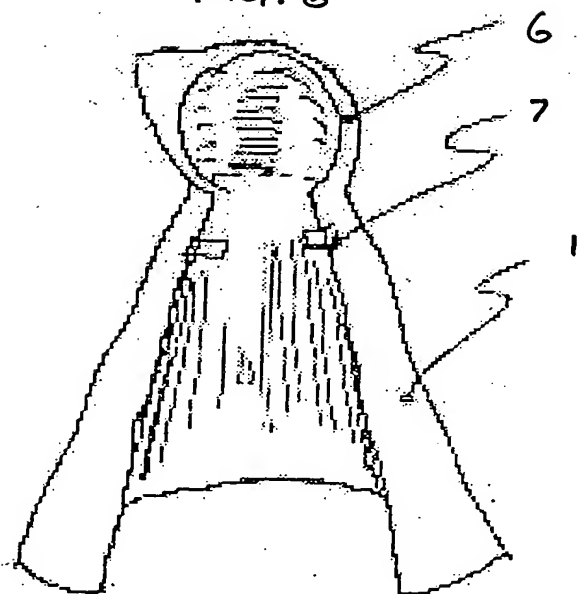


FIG. 6



THIS PAGE BLANK (USPTO)